



Appl. No. 10/612,239
Amdt. dated November 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of November 1, 2005

PATENT

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A system of dental appliances comprising:
a plurality of dental appliances wherein at least some of the plurality include a non-numeric indicia designating an order in which each of the at least some of the plurality are to be worn by a patient to provide dental treatment.
2. (original) A system as in claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of dental appliances comprise a polymeric shell having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement.
3. (original) A system as in claim 2, wherein each of the polymeric shells has at least one terminal tooth cavity and the indicia comprises a terminal tooth cavity of differing length in each of the polymeric shells .
4. (original) A system as in claim 2, wherein each of the polymeric shell has a height and the indicia comprises a different height in each of the polymeric shells.
5. (original) A system as in claim 2, wherein the indicia comprises one or more cutouts so that each polymeric shell has a different cutout pattern.
6. (original) A system as in claim 5, wherein the cutout comprises a notch in an edge of the appliance.
7. (original) A system as in claim 1, wherein the indicia comprises a color wherein each appliance has the same hue a different intensity.
8. (original) A system as in claim 1, wherein the indicia comprises a color and the color comprises a dissolvable dye.

9. (original) A system as in claim 1, wherein the indicia comprises a color and further comprising a wrapper removably attachable to each of the appliances, wherein each wrapper has the color.

10. (original) A system as in claim 1, wherein the indicia comprises a computer readable element.

11. (original) A system as in claim 10, wherein the computer readable element comprises a barcode.

12. (original) A system as in claim 10, wherein the computer readable element is readable by wireless means.

13. (original) A system as in claim 12, wherein the wireless means utilizes radiofrequency.

14. (original) A system of packaged dental appliances comprising:
a plurality of packages each containing a dental appliance, wherein the plurality of packages are joined in a continuous chain designating an order in which each of the dental appliances are to be worn by a patient to provide dental treatment.

15. (original) A system as in claim 14, wherein the packages are each joined by a perforation wherein the packages can be separated by breaking the perforation.

16. (original) A system as in claim 14, wherein the packages are joined by a heat seal.

17. (original) A system as in claim 14, further comprising a marking on a package at an end of the chain indicating the dental appliance to be worn first.

18. (original) A system as in claim 14, wherein each of the plurality of dental appliances comprise a polymeric shell having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement.

19. (original) A system of dental appliances comprising:
a plurality of dental appliances to be worn by a patient to provide dental treatment; and
a framework, wherein each of the plurality of dental appliances are removably attached to a portion of the framework.

20. (original) A system as in claim 19, wherein each of the plurality of dental appliances comprise a polymeric shell having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement.

21. (original) A system as in claim 19, further comprising at least one marking on the framework indicating the order in which the appliances are to be worn by a patient.

Claims 22 - 26 (canceled)

27. (original) A package of dental appliances comprising:
a package including a plurality of dental appliances positioned in an arrangement within the package which indicates an order of usage.

28. (original) A package as in claim 27, wherein each of the appliances comprises a polymeric shell having cavities shaped to receive and resiliently reposition teeth from one arrangement to a successive arrangement, the plurality of appliances including a first shell to be worn by the patient to reposition the teeth from the one arrangement to the successive arrangement and a second shell to be worn by the patient to reposition the teeth from the successive arrangement to another successive arrangement.

29. (original) A package as in claim 27, wherein the arrangement comprises stacking of the appliances.

30. (original) A system of packages for dental appliances:

a plurality of packages configured for housing at least one dental appliance, wherein each package includes a label having a non-numeric indicia indicating the order of usage of the corresponding dental appliance.

31. (original) A system as in claim 30, wherein the label includes a series of numbers and the non-numeric indicia comprises a marking on one of the numbers.

32. (original) A system as in claim 30, wherein the label includes a series of numbers and the non-numeric indicia comprises a removal of one of the numbers.

33. (original) A system as in claim 32, wherein the removal of one of the numbers comprises a holepunch.

34. (original) A system as in claim 30, wherein the a non-numeric indicia comprises at least one shape.

35. (original) A system as in claim 34, wherein the at least one shape comprises at least one stripe.

36. (original) A system as in claim 35, wherein the at least one stripe comprises a series of stripes forming a barcode.